Indian Journal of Basic and Applied Medical Research; September 2015: Vol.-4, Issue- 4, P. 384-393

**Original article
An experience of contraceptive practices among currently married females in an urban slum of Nagpur**

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**Abstract:**

Introduction: Single most important problem that India is facing now is the uncontrolled growth of population. In spite of availability of a wide range of contraceptives, mass media campaigns and IEC programs, the population control remains a distant dream to achieve.

 Objectives: 1) To study the contraceptive practices among females in the reproductive age group i.e. 15-49 in an area of urban health training centre. 2) To find out the factors associated with the non-usage of contraception.

Methods: The study was conducted in urban slum areas of UHTC, covering a population of 20,342. Study area was divided into five slum areas, out of which 1 area was selected by simple random sampling. All the currently married females of reproductive age of that selected area were included in study.

Results: Prevalence of contraceptive use among females was 69.3%. Most common method of contraception in the study was Tubectomy. Out of the total 475 females, 39.4% had accepted female sterilization. Majority of the females got information on contraception from doctors and other health care providers (50.8%).There was significant association between non acceptance of contraception and age, type of family, occupation, religion, literacy of both husband and wife and no. of male children of females. Most common reason behind not using contraceptives was fear from side effects (34.9%)

Conclusions: Various socio-demographic and reproductive variables had impact on contraceptive practices. Majority of females were not using contraceptive as they had fear from side effects.

Key words: Contraceptive practice, currently married.